

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

EXCISE

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Action

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FROM: Cairo

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1986, February 7, 2 p.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 1986; REPEATED INFORMATION DAMASCUS 231, SUDDA
142, PARIS 120.

Routine general discussion with Saudi Ambassador elicited little
from friendly [REDACTED] colleague except
following:

(1) Queried re outcome of Faisal-Nasser talks he confined reply
to saying that Faisal had taken same line as with AL-AHRAM
correspondent (EMBTel 1914) that mistake to identify American
policy with person of Secretary Dulles and to attack latter
personally for policies and actions which are, and must be,
product of American governmental machine. Going further, Faisal
told Nasser he had very high regard for Secretary personally and
considered him most highly qualified foreign minister with whom
he had come in contact

(3) Ambassador then said wished mention on personal basis
report that US intended participate in extending substantial
financial assistance to France and that matter would probably
come up in Arab League since Arabs regard any assistance to
France as detrimental to cause of Algerian nationalists. .
Ambassador said believed we would be approached officially
on matter but wished give me personal advance notice. I said
appreciated but wished take occasion to refute most strongly
identification of American aid to France with Algerian

struggle UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"
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-2- 1986, February 7, 2 p.m., from Cairo

struggle. Fact is that France has been friend of United States since days of our revolution and thousands of American dead in two world wars lie buried on French soil, not (repeat not) to mention current cooperation with France in order hold off Communist threat. There are very basic things and fact that French policy in Algeria may be subject to question by other friends and possibly to certain extent by US does not (repeat not) mean that our whole relationship can possibly be based on this one unhappy circumstance. Arabs, who traditionally reputed for great store they place on friendship should be first understand situation this kind. Ambassador indicated certain understanding but doubtful he was convinced.

HARE

TT:MAA

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